

1974-1975

NECEDAH YCC PERSONNEL - 1975 CAMP

ENROLLEES

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Denise L. Kirchoff	329 W. Juneau, Tomah, WI	Tomah
Debbie Woggon	Rt 1, Camp Douglas, WI	New Lisbon
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*Drop-outs

STAFF

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>
William B. Duncan	Camp Director
Karen Bennett	EE Instructor
Neal Peck	Work Crew Leader
Richard Powell	Work Crew Leader

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I. GENERAL

A. Weather Conditions

	<u>Month</u>	<u>Precipitation</u>		<u>Max. Temp.</u>	<u>Min. Temp.</u>
		<u>Normal</u>	<u>Snowfall</u>		
July	3.15	3.62	_____	96	46
August	4.84	3.36	_____	84	37
September	1.49	3.99	_____	82	20
October	2.40	2.33	_____	74	17
November	1.74	1.95	_____	68	14
December	1.30	1.39	<u>7.00</u>	43	- 1
January	1.16	1.02	<u>9.50</u>	45	- 16
February	1.61	.97	<u>17.50</u>	40	- 23
March	1.87	1.92	<u>13.00</u>	50	- 14
April	4.34	2.80	_____	67	11
May	1.86	4.32	_____	89	31
June	3.60	4.88	_____	88	36
Annual Totals	<u>29.36</u>	<u>32.55</u>	<u>47.00</u>	Extremes <u>96</u>	<u>- 23</u>

During July temperatures reached 80 degrees on 26 days during the month. A killing frost with temperatures going down to 14 degrees on September 20 is about normal for this area. All refuge pools were frozen over by November 21. Some snow showers occurred the last week in November and at years end the ground was covered with three inches of snow.

Frequent snowfalls during January and February accumulated to a depth of 17 inches by the end of February. Thawing temperatures reduced the snow cover to 10 inches by the end of March. By April 18th most pools were free of ice. The warm weather in May brought out many mosquitoes and wood ticks. During the last 10 days in June temperatures went above 80 degrees which is unusually warm for this time of year.

B. Habitat Conditions

1. Water

Precipitation totaled 29.36 inches; 3.19 inches below the 31 year average. Rainfall was not adequate in September to fill pools as desired. Draw downs were accomplished for management purposes.

2. Food and Cover

An early September frost ruined chances for a good corn crop. Kernels were frozen while still in the milk stage. Yields were cut by at least 50% and the corn was harvested by Sandhill cranes and geese by mid-October.

Winter wheat was browsed heavily on all fields and buckwheat was all utilized.

Blueberries were most abundant in the prairie areas above Pool #1. However, most burn units had some berries.

Browse conditions continue to remain excellent on recently logged areas for deer. The rapid growing aspen is out of reach of deer in a few years. Prairie burns produced excellent resprouting of forb and brush species for deer also.

Mallards, pintails, Canada and snow geese fed heavily on flooded millet, smartweed and Bidens in Pool #2 and the Goose Pool.

The acorn crop was nearly a total failure.

II. WILDLIFE

A. Migratory Birds

1. Swans

Seven swans were seen in Pool #1 on October 23. Many flocks of 100 - 200 were observed flying over the refuge in late October - early November. Clerk Rudolph observed three flocks flying southeast over Necedah on December 26.

The spring swan migration started with the arrival of seven swans on Pool #1 on April 18. Numbers peaked at 250 on April 14 and one was sighted on the Sprague-Mather Pool on May 3.

No John Hopkins University collared swans were observed this spring.

2. Geese

Nine different Canada goose broods were observed on the refuge. Total production was estimated at 75.

On September 23 a goose with a blue collar was observed on the refuge. Information received revealed the local male had been banded in Washington County, Minnesota, near the Twin Cities on June 29, 1973. A collar marked goose was observed on Pool #1 on April 21 but numbers were indistinguishable.

About 500 Canada geese moved into the refuge in July again this year. It is believed the geese are non-breeders from other parts of Wisconsin.

The fall migration of Canada geese peaked at 12,900 on October 7. One flock of 125 stayed until mid-December. The flock was last observed (about 60) on December 16.

Snow geese began arriving the last week of September and most were gone by November 9. They peaked at 1,225 on November 4.

The spring Canada goose flight was first observed with 50 geese sighted on March 17. The spring peak was approximately 2,000 birds in mid-April. Only local birds were apparent on the refuge after May 1, with about 300 birds being present.

3. Ducks

Duck production was as follows:

$$\begin{array}{rcccccl} \text{Breeding pairs} & \times & \text{Average brood size} & \times & \text{Hatching rate} & = & \text{Production} \\ 1,099 & & 5.7 & & 25\% & = & 1,566 \end{array}$$

Duck nest boxes have been checked in February and May-June since the winter of 1971. Following is an account of the project:

Year	Wood Duck		Hooded Merganser		No Use	Used by Starlings	Other Use	Total No. Checked
	Used*	Hatched	Used*	Hatched				
1971	4	3	6	4	10	14	11	45
1972	4	3	7	6	1	36	16	64
1973	12	5	3	0	26	16	14	71
1974	19	9	3	1	21	5	6	54

*includes hatched, dump nests, incomplete clutches, abandoned clutches, etc.

Starling use has declined dramatically by moving boxes out of heavy starling use areas.

In the future no nest checks will be made during the nesting season as disturbance may be a factor in nest desertion. Five complete clutches were deserted in 1974 after three nest checks.

The fall migration was again dominated by mallards (212,000 UD), wigeon (158,310 UD), and blue-winged teal (106,800 UD). The peak population of divers (300 ring-necked ducks and 400 hooded mergansers) occurred the last week of October.

Three mallards were observed below Pool #1 on February 6. These birds probably wintered below Petenwell Dam on the Wisconsin River. The first geese were noted on March 17. This was about a week later than last year. Most migrant waterfowl had passed through by late the third week in April.

4. Coots

The fall peak was reached on October 21 when 6,000 were on the refuge, mostly in the Sprague Pool.

Coots arrived in mid-April with 30 being sighted, by mid-May only about 20 remained on the refuge. No nesting was noticed.

5. Marsh and Water Birds

Great blue herons were first observed on April 7. Seven active nests were noted in the Sprague-Mather Pool on May 30.

A green heron was observed near water control #30 on March 31 by Ehlers. This observation turned out to be a state record for spring arrival for this species.

Greater sandhill cranes continue to draw increased interest from visitors, birder's and colleges. The fall migration peaked at 300 late September and early October. Forty-one cranes were banded in the early fall.

Marked sandhill cranes were first observed at Paines Prairie in Florida and Jasper-Pulaski area in Indiana during the fall migration and winter according to UW-Stevens Point graduate student Tom Howard.

Sandhill cranes were first observed in the State DNR field just south of the refuge on April 22.

Other notable observations include:

August 12	5 great egrets	Rice paddy
October 29	1 common loon	Pool #1
April 18	1 great egret	Pool #1
April 19	2 Common loons	Pool #1, Sprague-Mather Pool
April 21	1 horned grebe	Sprague-Mather Pool
April 25	1 black-crowned night heron	Rice paddy

On April 22 a rural mail carrier brought an apparently healthy common loon to the refuge. He had caught the bird in a ditch along Highway 21. He stated it could not fly. The loon apparently had landed in the flooded road ditch which was too small to permit take-off. The loon was released in Pool #1.

6. Shorebirds, Gulls, Terns, and Allied Species

About thirty Bonaparte's gulls were observed on the Sprague-Mather Pool on May 3.

7. Doves

1.45 doves per stop were recorded on the annual coo-count through Oakdale, Wisconsin. This figure is up slightly from 1.3/stop recorded in 1974.

B. Upland Game Birds

Ruffed grouse numbers remain at a low level. The mild winter with good soft snow levels have favored wintering grouse. Spring weather conditions were favorable for grouse nesting. Sighting of grouse broods this spring indicates a possible slight increase in the population.

Wild turkey remain scarce. Some observations of turkey were made by refuge personnel but no broods were observed this reporting period. Some broods were noted on lands adjacent to the refuge.

No sharp-tailed grouse were observed on the refuge this year.

C. Big Game Animals

White-tailed deer remain plentiful and are discussed in more detail under VI, D. Wisconsin DNR personnel estimated the herd at 25 - 30 per square mile before the hunting season.

D. Fur Animals, Predators, Rodents and other Mammals

Beaver were busy plugging two culverts in September and October. Dams were constantly removed and eventually they quit building. Coyotes were sighted commonly especially in the fall. (See IV, C.).

E. Hawks, Eagles, Owls, Ravens and Magpies

Eagles (mostly bald) were sighted year around. An estimated 20-25 were present on the refuge in early October. Twenty-three eagles were counted on the annual January eagle-waterfowl survey below Petenwell and Castle Rock dams. An immature Golden eagle was observed on the Williams field on February 26.

Rough-legged hawks continue to be numerous in the prairie restoration areas in the fall-winter period. It is not unusual to see five to ten in the Rynearson prairie area on a warm afternoon in late fall or early spring.

Other notable observations include:

10/9	1 turkey vulture	Pool #1 dam
12/13	1 snowy owl	Pool #2 prairie
12/16	2 marsh hawks	Pool #1 prairie
4/7	1 turkey vulture	Williams field

F. Endangered Species

Osprey again nested in the heron rookery in the Sprague Pool. The osprey used an unbraced heron nest in the rookery. No young were observed.

G. Other Birds

Pileated woodpeckers were occasionally heard or sighted in several areas.

H. Fish

Fishing was good for northern pike the last week of September in the Sprague Pool. Most fishermen were able to catch their limit (5) in a few hours during these few days. The fish averaged one to two pounds. Winter fishing success was not very good and fishing pressure was light.

I. Reptiles and Amphibians

Nothing significant to report.

J. Disease

None

III. REFUGE DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

A. Physical Development

The Wisconsin Power & Light Company provided new underground electric service to headquarters via the entrance road. Central State Telephone Company provided new underground service to headquarters and private lines to all parties.

A new garage was constructed at Quarters #1 by refuge personnel. A TV antenna and tower were constructed for Quarters #1. Blacktop surface was put in at Quarters #1 and the office parking lot.

Road improvement work was done on Pool 19 Road, Coaver Road-east and west Goose Pool Road. Extensive gravel hauling was also accomplished with forestry funds.

Major purchases included: 4x4 pickup truck, two portable radios, two mobile radios, four picnic tables and dry chemical fire extinguishers.

A bid for \$13,500 was let to S. D. Ellenbecker Company, Edgar, Wisconsin for renovation of water control structure #29. Work began in June 1975 and was completed in September, 1975.

Youth Conservation Corps projects included: Finlay Road cemetery renovation, observation tower painting, 20 duck boxes constructed, nature trail renovation, Sprague dike erosion control, timber stand improvement, boundary fence renovation and other projects.

B. Plantings

Corn (30 acres), buckwheat (30 acres) and winter wheat (25 acres) were planted mainly for migrating geese. Lasso helped control nut sedge and exploders helped keep wildlife away until corn seedlings were six inches tall. Corn yield was poor because of frosts on 9/4 and 9/20. Buckwheat and winter wheat browse were excellent. For the first time in many years, all crops were consumed by mid-October by geese.

C. Collections and Receipts

Thirty bushels of winter wheat seed from Horicon NWR. Cob corn, 100 bushels, from Wisconsin DNR for Sandhill crane and duck banding.

D. Control of Vegetation

Switch grass, fall panicum and crabgrass in corn were controlled with three lbs/acre of 80% Atrazine applied with water. Nut sedge was controlled by the application of two quarts/acre of Lasso EC (pre-emergent). Weed control was good except for nut sedge at Middle Canfield which was not controlled.

E. Planned Burning

Desired results from spring burning were excellent. Favorable winds were used to burn into pools and previously burned areas so there were no control problems. A new long range prescribed burning plan was written and approved. Data on the burns are shown on the next page.

FY 1975 Prescribed Burns - Necedah NWR, WI

<u>Date</u>	<u>Unit Number</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Temp.</u>	<u>Wind</u>	<u>RH</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Cost/Acre</u>
8/30	F2	40	74	W-10	50	\$186.	\$4.70
9/4	F1, F4	128	71	SW-8	48	400.	3.10
9/5	W10, 23	78	70	SW-10	39	186	2.40
11/6-7	Forest	114	48	SW-8	45	230.	2.00
4/7	W4, W11, W14, W7, W12, 21	250	44	NE-10	45	310.	1.30
4/8	32	40	40	NE-20	40	100.	1.00
4/11	26, 28, 30	560	47	N-10	40	350.	.60
4/14	31	140	45	SE-7	55	105.	.70
4/15	27	410	55	SW-7	45	140	.40
4/16	W5	10	57	Var-10	50	45	4.30
4/21	18	110	56	SE-15	48	175	1.60
4/25	19, 20	350	58	NE-5	45	163	.50
Totals:		2,230				\$2,330.	1.05

F. Wild Fires

One wild fire started by lightning on 5/19 burned 25 acres in Section 24, T 19N, R 2 E. Control was by refuge crews. The wild fire cooperative agreement between FWS and Wisconsin DNR was revised and signed.

IV. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

A. Grazing

None

B. Haying

Daniel Woggon removed 52 tons of alfalfa-grass mixed hay from the Laske and Carpenter units and timothy hay from the Hanson field. He paid \$1.00 per ton. All haying is done to create fall browse for geese.

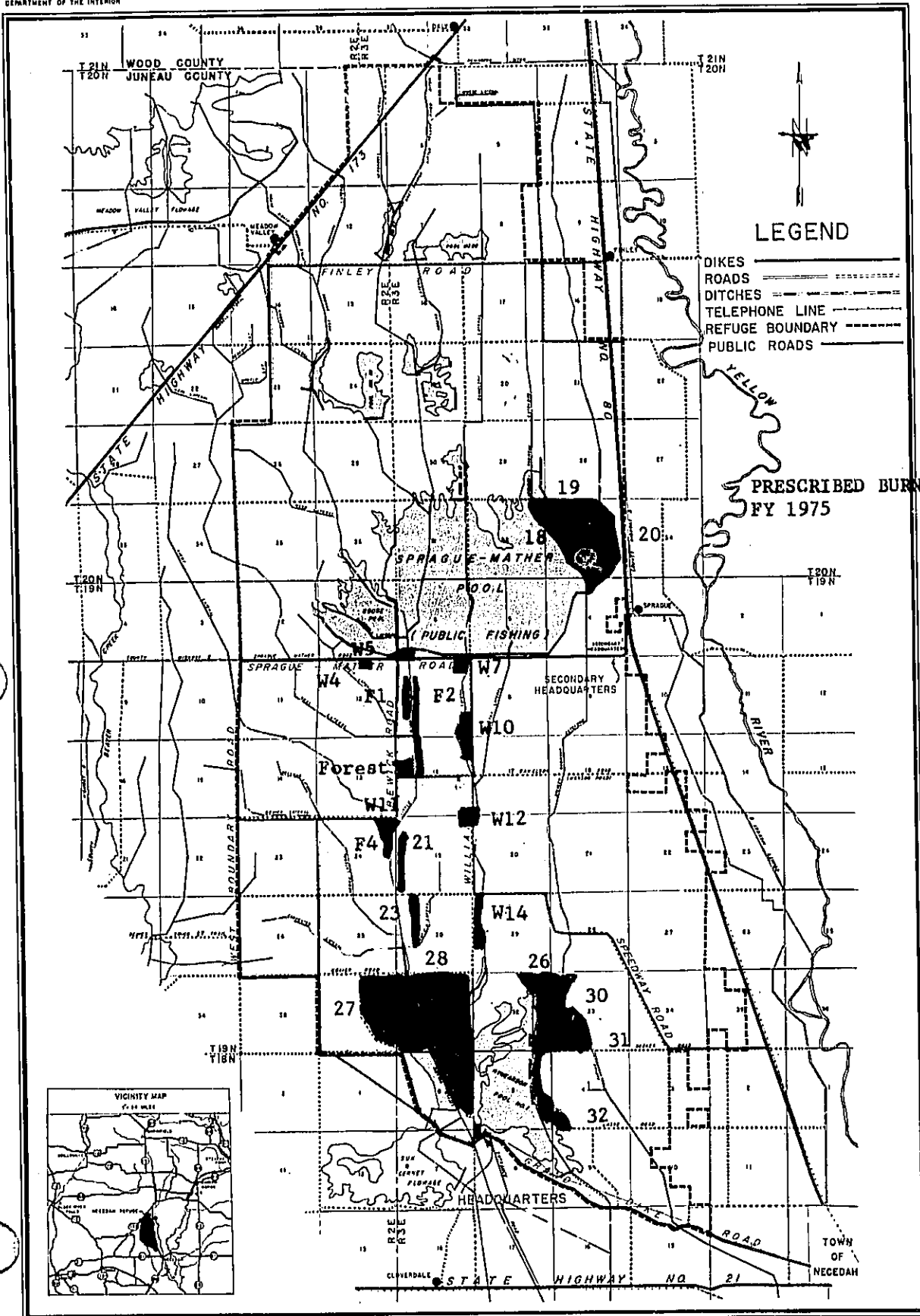
C. Fur Harvest

The refuge has been divided into six trapping units. Pelt prices were not high but raccoon brought \$8 - \$12, muskrats \$2 - \$3, mink \$5 - \$15 and skunks \$2 - \$5.

NECEDAH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
JUNEAU COUNTY, WISCONSIN

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE



COMPILED IN THE BRANCH OF ENGINEERS

FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN

Scale 1" = 1 MILE

TOWNSHIP
DIAGRAM

MEAN
DECLINATION
1960
3R WIS. 274 409

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

JANUARY, 1980

The high price for raccoon caused trappers to concentrate on them with a 300% increase in numbers taken.

Fur take for fiscal year 1975 is as follows:

Trapper	Muskrat	Mink	Raccoon	Beaver	Skunk	Opossum
Don Pech	97	3	44	0	3	0
Robert Eads	110	2	31	3	3	0
Otto Eltag	39	5	88	15	3	0
Harold Eaton	204	17	142	13	0	0
James Wnuk	323	4	33	7	1	0
John Bagnowski	<u>88</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>2</u>
Total:	861	37	386	39	25	2

The beaver season ran from February 8 - March 9 with a 15 beaver limit. Poor prices were paid averaging \$15 - \$18 per pelt for large beaver.

D. Timber Removal

There were 10 permits during 1975 with a revenue of \$33,308.59. Stumpage rates fell as mill pulpwood demand decreased. Oak and aspen were not being taken at the mills by the end of the year.

Refuge forester Al Johnson transferred to Kenai Moose Range in March and his position has not been filled. Additional funding, \$10,000 (total \$25,000 for expense for sales), was received for forest road improvement and gravel.

A timber sale summary for FY 1975 is found on the next page.

F.Y. 1975 Timber Removal - Necadah NWR

Permittee	Permit Number	Location	Acreage	Volume	Rate of Charge	Income	Type of Cut	Species
Russell Stainbrook	74-6	30-20-3	163	112	11.65		Clear cut	Pine
				201	2.27	2,400.00	Clear cut	Oak
				218	1.87		Clear cut	Aspen
Becker Forest Prod.	74-8	25-19-2	14	140	11.2	1,577.80	Cut mature jack pine	Jack pine
			30	300	2.07	621.00	Clear cut	Aspen
David Ziebell	74-9	2-19-2		856	12.01	10,280.56	Cut mature jack pine	Jack pine
		35-20-2	93	300	2.51	753.00	Clear cut	Aspen
Becker Forest Prod.	74-10	23-19-2	12	184	7.00	1,288.00	Thin Plantation	Jack & Red pine
				60	12.08		Cut mature jack pine	Jack pine
Becker Forest Prod.	75-3	28-19-3	4	10	1.00	735.00	Clear cut	Aspen
Becker Forest Prod.	75-4*	23-19-2	20	98	10.00	981.50	Thin Plantation	Red pine
Becker Forest Prod.	75-5*	4-19-3	68	630	13.57	6,411.82	Cut mature jack pine	Jack pine
Richard Pappenfuss	75-6	2-19-2	5	50	5.00	250.85	Cut road side	Jack pine
Becker Forest Prod.	75-7	2-19-2	30	581	13.00	7,553.00	Cut mature jack pine	Jack pine
Willie Carter	75-8	Sprague Road	-	-	4.00	Cancelled	Salvage	Oak-pine-aspen

*Permits not completed as of 7-1-75

E. Commercial Fishing

None

F. Other Uses

Joe Haske	Apiary	10 hives	\$1.00
Kenneth Peck	Apiary	30 hives	\$3.00

V. FIELD INVESTIGATION OR APPLIED RESEARCHA. Sandhill Crane Study

Tom Howard, University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, took over Ernie Gluesing's project in 1974. Two cannon net sites were used to capture the cranes. These were the Pool #2 and Pool #1 sites (See 1973 Narrative, Section V. A.). Cob corn was used for bait. Pool #2 was in draw down and Pool #1 held around elevation 923.00.

Sandhill cranes were banded with the standard USFWS aluminum bands. Fluorescent green fabric streamers were attached to each wing. The streamers had white numerals to permit identification at a distance.

1973 collar marked birds were observed (08,10,12,13,27) on the Pool #2 site on August 15 and one on September 7 (00). The white collars were stained dark brown and were difficult to read with seven power binoculars at 70 yards. These stained collars were not visible with the naked eye at over 150 yards.

Two cranes were killed during the netting operation and one was shot by a "hunter" south of the refuge on October 10, (Band No. 599-23323).

The 1974 marked cranes were sighted at Jasper-Pulaski, Indiana, and Paines Prairie, Florida during the fall migration.

The first wing-marked crane, marked in September 1974, was observed on April 14. Several others were observed during the spring. Numbers were difficult to read on wing tags.

Mr. Howard searched the refuge during the spring and noted three Sandhill nests. A helicopter greatly aided the search. One nest had hatched before May 16, 1975.

B. Banding

Forty-one cranes were banded by Mr. Howard in the fall by cannon netting.

Necedah NWR received a quota of 500 (125 each age/sex) pre-season mallards to band. Baiting was started in mid-July on Pool #1 and Pool #2. Walk-in traps and cannon net sites each caught about equal numbers (Pool #1 & Pool #2). Recaptures were running 70 to 90 percent by late September. Following are the data:

	AM	AF	IM	IF	UU
Mallard	103	101	139	176	5
Wood duck	36	12	18	13	1

Walk-in traps worked best on sandbars in lowered Pool #1. No mortality resulted during duck banding operations.

VI. PUBLIC REATIONS

A. Recreational Use

Total visits were 74,121. Deer-bow visits continue to decrease during the late season due to the changes in open areas made in 1970. Other major categories of use were up slightly. The following are percentages of total visits:

Sight-seeing - auto	32%
Wildlife observation - auto	26
Deer hunt - gun	10
Auto tour	8
Wildlife observation - tower	6
Fishing	4
Berry picking	3
Deer hunt - bow	3
Nature trail	3
Other	5

An interesting note is that only 20% of the total visits were by consumptive type usage; the other 80% took home only memories. Non-wildlife-wildlands recreation is not provided at Necedah.

B. Refuge Visitors

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name and Organization</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
8/9	Gordon Hansen, USFWS, Mpls., MN	YCC Inspection
8/28	Dwayne Gedken, Wis. DNR, Madison	Highway 21 Constr. Project
	Fred Downs, Federal Highway Adm.	"
	Clarence Smith, Wis. DNR, Babcock, WI	"
	Joe Haug, Wis. DNR, Babcock, WI	"
	Bruce Gruthoff, Wis. DNR, Wis. Rapids, WI	"
	Ray St. Ores, USFWS, Mpls., MN	"
	J. B. Germond, Wis. DOT, Wis. Rapids, WI	"
	J. L. Anderson, Wis. DOT, Madison, WI	"
	Jon Neihold, Wis. DOT, Wis. Rapids, WI	"
10/1	Dr. Wm. E. Green, USFWS, Winona, MN	FWS-Wis DNR land exchange
	John Winship, USFWS, Mpls., MN	"
10/3	Miles D. Pooler, USGMA, Oshkosh, WI	Law Enforcement
10/10	Mel Anderson, USFWS, Mpls., MN	Inspection
10/16	Jack Hemphill, USFWS, Mpls., MN	Land exchange-FWS-Wis. DNR
	Gordon Hansen, USFWS, Mpls., MN	"
	John Winship, USFWS, Mpls., MN	"
10/24	Dr. Wm. E. Green, USFWS, Winona, MN	Managed Hunting-Wis. DNR
	Richard Hunt, Wis. DNR, Horicon, WI	"
	Clarence Smith, Wis. DNR, Babcock, WI	"
	Joe Haug, Wis. DNR, Babcock, WI	"
	Robert Smith, Wis. DNR, Wis. Rapids, WI	"
10/31	Earl Eliason, USFWS, Mpls., MN	Inspect Dam No. 29
	John Ramsour, USFWS, Mpls., MN	"
11/11	Loren J. Bonde, SRA, Madison, WI	Law Enforcement
11/19	Don Young, USFWS, Mpls., MN	Inspection
1/14	Ralph Allen, Prof. Milliken U.-Illinois	Visit
1/14	George Gard, USFWS, St. Point, WI	Wetlands
1/20	Dan Pooler, SA, Oshkosh, WI	Courtesy call
	Loren Bonde, SRA, Madison, WI	"
3/6	John Beyle, Wis DNR, Horicon	Tour refuge
	William E. Wheeler, Wis. DNR, Horicon	"
	Richard Hunt, Wis. DNR, Horicon	"
3/14	Mel Lange, Warden, Wis. DNR-Rhineland	Courtesy call
3/21	Jerry Bond, Under Sheriff, Juneau Co.	Security precautions-Native
	Jack Ripley, Sheriff, Juneau Co.	" Americans
	Mike Solveny, District Attorney, Juneau Co.	"
	Capt. Howard Goetsch, Wis. State Patrol	"
	Sgt. Wm. Hendrickson, Wis. State Patrol	"
4/3	Tom Howard, U.of Wis. St. Point, WI	Sandhill Crane banding
5/1	Dave Ostergaard, Genoa Hatchery, WI	Deliver Northern Pike Fry
6/2	Tom Blewett, U.of Wis. Madison, WI	Vegetative samples
6/17	Dr. Ted Born, Geo. Williams College, ILL.	YCC inspection
6/17	Wm. Aultfather, USFWS, Mpls., MN	Forestry program review

Frequent visitors: Juneau Co. Wis. DNR wardens Ben Little, Jim Blankenheim, Bruce Nims, Don Konoke, Adams Co., Jim Kincannon and Cal Clark Monroe Co., Warden Supervisor Tom Albers, from Wisconsin Rapids, Joe Haug, Game Manager, Sandhill Game Farm, Babcock, WI

C. Refuge Participation

Refuge personnel gave talks to 17 groups (531 people) on the refuge and 27 groups (2,394 people) off the refuge.

D. Hunting

The Wisconsin waterfowl season opened at noon on October 2 (Wednesday). Wisconsin elected to use the point system with hours of 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset. The goose kill in the surrounding area was estimated at 900 (700 on public lands and 200 on private lands).

The early archery deer season ran from September 21 to November 17. Hunting pressure was down 11% on opening morning with 164 cars present. An estimated 30 deer were taken during the season.

The firearms season opened on November 23 and closed on December 1. Seven hundred fifty two cars were present on the opening morning. The registration station at Necedah recorded 65% 1 1/2 year old bucks, 34% 2 1/2 year old bucks and only 1% 4 1/2 and older bucks indicating a heavily cropped buck population. A total of 428 deer were estimated harvested from the refuge (254 bucks and 174 quota deer).

Three blue goose signs and one stop sign were stolen during the season.

The late archery season opened on December 7 and closed on December 31. Total cars on opening morning decreased by 50% with 97 cars counted.

E. Violations

A total of 15 violation cases were prosecuted in State court and three in federal court. An additional five warning letters were issued. The most common violation was hunting in the closed areas. An individual was apprehended for shooting a Sandhill crane on the state goose "firing line" (\$150 fine in federal court). Littering problems decreased with two cases made and very little litter pickup was necessary.

Some vandalism occurred on the nature trail interpretive signs and boundary signs. A traffic counter was stolen from the Sprague-Mather Road.

F. Safety

One accident occurred in July when a YCC enrollee became stricken by heat exhaustion. She recovered with no lost work time. Safety Officer Markwell reviewed YCC operations and the refuge headquarters area for compliance with OSHA and other safety procedures.

Days since the last lost time accident were 2,551 days as of June 30.

VII. OTHER ITEMS

A. Items of Interest

Necedah was designated the Wisconsin Wetlands Management office for WPA purchases in seven northwestern and southeastern counties of Wisconsin. There are 3,371 acres in this program. Under an agreement with Wisconsin DNR, FWS purchases wetlands and DNR is to provide funds and manpower to manage them. Necedah acts as coordination office to handle federal responsibilities, approve DNR management plans, process permits and see that WPA's are managed in the migratory waterfowl interest.

Necedah completed its first Youth Conservation Corps program and began a second year camp. The first year non-resident camp consisted of 10 male and 10 female enrollees and a staff of local teachers and college students. The second year program was run by contract with George Williams College, Illinois. The contract staff worked out much better.

A detailed land exchange/goose management proposal was prepared by Wisconsin DNR and refuge personnel covering the goose "firing line" area south of the refuge and refuge lands on the north end. To date no comments have been received and no action has been taken to improve hunting on the five mile "firing line".

The refuge crowd control plan was put into effect when the local sheriff and state patrol offices received word that Indians planned a take over of refuge headquarters on March 21. The area was sealed off for three days and no confrontation occurred. There were enforcement/Indian confrontations in central Wisconsin prior to and during this time with American Indian Movement leaders involved.

Preparations began for an anticipated federal Title X program at Necedah. Funds are available from the Department of Commerce for federal areas in counties of high unemployment. Plans are for a \$40,000 program which would include contract MARS work and hiring of approximately 10 county residents for four months.

Credits:

Updike: III A,B,C,D,E,F; IV D; VII A

Strom: I B; II; IV A,B,C,E,F; V A,B; VI A,D,E

Rudolph: I A; VI B,C; typing and assembly

Date: February 2, 1976

Gerald H. Updike, Refuge Manager